

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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TEXAS MEN INDICTED FOR POSSESSION WITH INTENT TO DISTRIBUTE MARIJUANA

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that two El Paso, Texas men were indicted by a federal grand jury today for being in possession with intent to distribute more than 1,000 kilograms of marijuana.

Pablo S. Marquez, 49, and **Gustavo T. Luna**, 49, both of El Paso, were charged in a three-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Springfield. Today's indictment replaces a federal criminal complaint that was filed against **Marquez** and **Luna** on July 25, 2005.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that **Marquez** and **Luna** were in possession of more than 1,000 kilograms of marijuana in Greene County, Mo., on July 23, 2005.

Counts Two and Three of the federal indictment are forfeiture counts, which require **Marquez** and **Luna** to forfeit to the government any property derived from the proceeds of the violation alleged in Count One, or any property used to commit the alleged violation. Count Two would require **Marquez** to forfeit \$1,113 that was seized by law enforcement officers on July 23, 2005. Count Three would require **Luna** to forfeit \$1,610 that was seized by law enforcement officers on July 23, 2005.

According to an affidavit filed in support of the original federal criminal complaint, **Marquez** and **Luna** were arrested on July 23, 2005, when their 1996 Freightliner (being driven by **Marquez**) pulling a 1989 Dorsey trailer was stopped for a commercial motor vehicle compliance check on I-44 in Greene County. Law enforcement officers found 250 bundles of marijuana wrapped in cellophane, with a total weight of approximately 5,100 pounds, the affidavit says.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictment are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury,

whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney David P. Rush. It was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Missouri State Highway Patrol, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States
Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

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